## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2004-2-E - ORDER NO. 2004-197

APRIL 14, 2004

IN RE: South Carolina Electric & Gas Company – Annual ) ORDER GRANTING Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs ) EXTENSION TO ) PREFILE  $\sqrt{0}$  ) TESTIMONY

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of the Commission Staff (Staff) for a one (1) day extension of time in which to prefile its testimony and exhibits regarding the Annual Review of base rates for fuel costs of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G). The Commission Staff and other parties were originally scheduled to file their prefiled testimony and exhibits on or before April 7, 2004, as set forth in Commission Order No. 2004-148 issued March 24, 2004. Staff was unable to prefile its testimony and exhibits by the due date of April 7, 2004, therefore, the request for a one (1) day extension.

As grounds for the extension, Staff asserts that the new fuel law contained in Act 175, which became effective on February 18, 2004, and the recent court reversals of previous fuel orders issued by the Commission have made the preparation of Staff's testimony and exhibits for this proceeding extremely complex. Therefore, Staff has been unable to complete its testimony and exhibits which necessitates the present request for a one (1) day extension.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission discerns no prejudice to any party in granting the requested extension in this matter and concludes that the request of the Commission Staff for a one (1) day extension to file its testimony and exhibits should be granted. Accordingly, we approve and grant the Staff's request for the extension of time. Under the modified prefile date, the Commission Staff shall prefile and serve its direct testimony and exhibits on or before **April 8, 2004**. (The Staff may file and serve the direct testimony and exhibits by mail on the indicated date.) The other requirements set out by Order No. 2004-148 remain in effect.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Mignon L. Clyburn, Chairman

ATTEST:

Bruce F. Duke, Executive Director

(SEAL)